

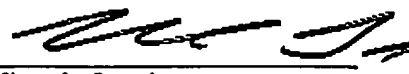
PATENT

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**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being faxed to 703-872-9306 on the date shown below to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date:

3-28-05  
Himanshu S. Amin**RECEIVED**  
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MAR 28 2005**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:

Applicant(s): George D. Blankenship *et al.*

Examiner: Matthew S. Gart

Serial No: 09/838,970

Art Unit: 3625

Filing Date: April 20, 2001

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING WELDING CONSUMABLES

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 27, 2004**

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Dear Sir:

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and comments below.